

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-5, 7, 16, 18-20, 22, and 23 as follows.

Please cancel claims 11-15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a ~~storing unit~~memory configured to store a pre-defined list of rules for detecting special data packets;

a ~~detecting unit~~detector configured to detect special data packets in a received plurality of data packets based on the pre-defined list of rules stored in said ~~storing unit~~memory;

a ~~routing unit~~router configured to request instructions for the special data packets detected by said ~~detecting unit~~detector and route the special data packets in accordance with instructions received on request; and

an internal entity configured to store instructions for the special data packets, wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to notify said internal entity of the detected special data packets and request instructions for the special data packets from said internal entity, and

wherein an external entity is configured to determine and update the instructions stored in said internal entity during active operations, wherein the external entity is connectable to at least one further router located outside said apparatus.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to notify the external entity of the detected special data packets instead of said internal entity, and request instructions for the special data packets from said external entity instead of said internal entity.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said external entity is configured to determine and update the rules stored in said ~~storage unit~~memory during active operations.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to modify the special data packets in accordance with the received instructions.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to communicate with an external charging entity for charging the routing of the special data packets.

6. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
storing a pre-defined list of rules for detecting special data packets;
detecting special data packets in a received plurality of data packets based on the stored pre-defined list of rules;

requesting instructions for the detected special data packets and routing the special data packets in a data network in accordance with instructions received on request; and notifying an internal entity of the detected special data packets and requesting instructions for the special data packets from said internal entity when requesting the instructions for the detected special data packets,

wherein the instructions stored in said internal entity are determined and updated by an external entity during active operations,

wherein the method is used in an apparatus, and the external entity is connectable to at least one further router located outside said apparatus.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said requesting comprises: notifying said external entity of the detected special data packets instead of said internal entity; and requesting instructions for the special data packets from said external entity instead of said internal entity.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the stored rules are determined and updated by said external entity during active operations.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said -requesting of instructions comprises:

modifying the special data packets in accordance with the received instructions.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
communicating with an external charging entity for charging the routing of the
special data packets.

11-15. Cancelled

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
storing means for storing a pre-defined list of rules for detecting special data packets;
detecting means for detecting special data packets in a received plurality of data
packets based on the pre-defined list of rules stored in said storing means;
routing means for requesting instructions for the special data packets detected by said
detecting means and route the special data packets in accordance with instructions received
on request; and
an internal entity means for storing instructions for the special data packets,
wherein said routing means comprises notifying means for notifying said internal
entity of the detected special data packets and request instructions for the special data
packets from said internal entity, and

wherein an external entity comprises means for determining and means for updating the instructions stored in said internal entity during active operations, wherein the external entity is connectable to at least one further routing means located outside said apparatus.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~An apparatus, comprising:
a ~~routing unit~~router configured to request instructions for special data packets detected by a ~~detecting unit~~detector and route the special data packets in accordance with instructions received on request;

wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to notify an internal entity of the detected special data packets and request instructions for the special data packets from said internal entity, and

wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to notify an external entity of the detected special data packets instead of said internal entity, and request instructions for the special data packets from said external entity instead of said internal entity, wherein the external entity is connectable to at least one further router located outside said apparatus.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element~~apparatus of claim 18, wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to modify the special data packets in accordance with the received instructions.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ of claim 18, wherein said ~~routing unit~~router is configured to communicate with an external charging entity for charging the routing of the special data packets.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A computer program implemented on a computer-readable medium, said computer program controlling a processor to:

store a pre-defined list of rules for detecting special data packets;

detect a special data packets in a received plurality of data packets based on one of the stored pre-defined list of rules;

request instructions for the detected special data packets;

route the special data packets in a data network in accordance with instructions received upon the request;

notify an internal entity of the detected special data packets; and

request instructions for the special data packets from the internal entity when requesting the instructions for the detected special data packets,

wherein the instructions stored in the internal entity are determined and updated by an external entity during active operations,

wherein the computer program is used in an apparatus, and the external entity is connectable to at least one further router located outside said apparatus.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~An apparatus, comprising:
routing means for requesting instructions for special data packets detected by a
~~detecting unit~~detecting means and ~~route~~routing the special data packets in accordance with
instructions received on request;

wherein said routing means comprises notifying means for notifying an internal
entity of the detected special data packets and ~~request~~requesting instructions for the special
data packets from said internal entity, and

wherein said routing means comprises notifying means for notifying an external
entity of the detected special data packets instead of said internal entity, and ~~request~~
requesting instructions for the special data packets from said external entity instead of said
internal entity, wherein the external entity is connectable to at least one further routing
means located outside said apparatus.